

REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the thoroughness with which the Examiner has examined the above-identified application. Reconsideration is requested in view of the amendments above and the remarks below.

Claim Objections

Applicant has amended the list of claims submitted in the October 12, 2004 amendment to accurately depict the proper status identifier for claim 17 as being "previously presented."

New Claims Added

Applicant has had correspondence with the Examiner since the filing of the October 12, 2004 amendment. In that correspondence, certain amendments had been suggested by the Examiner for bringing the case into a condition for allowance. Applicant responded to the Examiner's suggestions with a May 17, 2006 email that recommended changes to claim 1. Applicant further suggested some dependent claims as well. See attached email. These suggestions were never entered, nor was applicant able solicit further comment from the Examiner. Applicant respectfully submits these (and two other) suggested amendments as new claims 47-52 for consideration by the Examiner.

It is respectfully submitted that the application is in a condition where allowance of the entire case is proper. Reconsideration and issuance of a notice of allowance are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

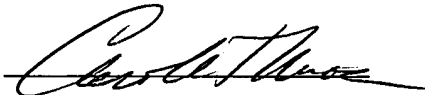


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Name: Carol M. Thomas Date: December 29, 2006 Signature: 

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